

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended. No new matter is added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner requests the addition of corresponding serial nos. for cited co-pending applications. The specification is amended as suggested to add this information.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also requests election among four embodiments. Applicant provisionally elects Species 4, Fig. 4, with traverse. Claims 1-3, 6-10, and 12-20 read on the elected species. Claims 1-3, 6-10 and 17-19 are generic to all species.

However, it is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SPC/fpw

Attachment:

Petition for One Month Extension of Time

Date: August 8, 2005

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